Over the past several weeks, thousands of Nebraskans have shared their views with me regarding the health care proposal in Congress. I have hosted a public field hearing on "Addressing the 'Health' in Health Care," held personal meetings with constituents, conducted townhalls by telephone (which allow dialogue with individuals and families from the convenience of their homes), and received numerous emails, letters, and phone calls. While these forums have demonstrated a diversity of thought and opinion, including the challenges of affordability, many Nebraskans have expressed serious concerns about the government-run public option plan before the House of Representatives.

I greatly appreciate the input of constituents. All Americans deserve a thorough policy debate that is focused on strengthening the best aspects of our health care while improving health outcomes, reducing costs, and protecting vulnerable persons. To accommodate further dialogue on this critical discussion, I am planning additional public meetings this week in Lincoln.

I will hold two town hall meetings on Thursday, August 27. The first will be held at the People's City Mission starting at 2 pm. The second will begin at 7 pm at Lincoln Southwest High School. The meetings are open to the public, and I am hopeful you can participate. Following the People's City Mission meeting, I will review facilities at the Mission, including its newly opened free health clinic, which serves the community's needlest. After the meeting at Southwest High School, I will stay to speak with constituents who may wish to visit personally.

Please find the details for Thursday's town hall meetings below. I hope you can join us.

Fortenberry Town Hall Meetings

Thursday, August 27, 2009

People's City Mission Town Hall Meeting People's City Mission 110 Q Street, Lincoln 2:00 p.m.

Lincoln Southwest High School Town Hall Meeting Lincoln Southwest High School 7001 S 14th Street, Lincoln 7:00 p.m.